

**FROM THE OFFICES OF
MAYOR ASHLEY SWEARENGIN
AND
THE CITY MANAGER**

RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION

WHEREAS, Detective Neal Cooney, of the Fresno Police Department's Sexual Assault Unit, was selected as a recipient of the 2009 Robert Presley Institute of Criminal Investigation "Investigative Excellence Award" for his investigative work that led to the arrest of a serial rapist. The award was presented on April 16, 2009 at the San Francisco Airport Marriott in Burlingame, California..

WHEREAS, In March 2008, Detective Cooney investigated a rape series that was occurring in the Central Policing District of Fresno. His investigation included interviews of several victims, organizing an extensive surveillance operation, and briefing his supervisors and patrol personnel on the details of the case to enhance the identification of the suspect.

WHEREAS, During a surveillance operation, patrol officers contacted Carlos Smith Jr. who was positively identified as the man who kidnapped and attacked the victims. DNA from three of the victims was located in Smith's vehicle, and Smith's DNA was located on two of the victims. In October 2008, Smith was convicted of three counts of rape, five counts of oral copulation by force, two counts of kidnapping to commit rape, one count of robbery, and one count of assault with the intent to commit rape. Smith was sentenced to 16 years plus 145 years to life for multiple sex crimes. Detective Cooney's efforts in this extensive investigation were paramount to the successful prosecution of Carlos Smith.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Mayor and City Manager of the City of Fresno, do hereby recognize and congratulate Detective Neal Cooney for earning the distinguished 2009 Robert Presley Institute of Criminal Investigation "Investigative Excellence Award." Detective Cooney was chosen among numerous entrants statewide.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hand and affixed the Seal of the City of Fresno, California, this 21st day of May, 2009.

MAYOR ASHLEY SWEARENGIN

ANDREW T. SOUZA, CITY MANAGER